Fourth Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

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SUGGESTED LANGUAGE FOR FINAL DOCUMENT ON ARTICLE VII;
SOUTH PACIFIC NUCLEAR FREE ZONE TREATY

Working Paper submitted by Australia and New Zealand

The Conference notes that the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty (also known as the Treaty of Rarotonga) entered into force on 11 December 1986 following deposit of the eighth instrument of ratification. The Conference also notes with satisfaction that 11 members of the South Pacific Forum have now ratified the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty and that the Treaty has been commended by a resolution of the United Nations General Assembly at its forty-fourth session.

The Conference further notes that China and the Union of the Soviet Socialist Republics have adhered to the two protocols of the Treaty open to them, Protocols 2 and 3. The United States has stated that none of its practices and activities within the Treaty area are inconsistent with the Treaty and its Protocols. The United Kingdom has announced that it would respect the intentions of regional States on Protocols 1 and 3. France, which continues to test nuclear weapons in the region, has formally decided not to adhere to the Protocols.

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